



PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 02887.0259

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of: |) | |
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| Junji SUGAMOTO et al. |) | Group Art Unit: 2891 |
| |) | |
| Application No.: 10/706,090 |) | Examiner: Smith, Bradley |
| |) | |
| Filed: November 13, 2003 |) | Confirmation No. 7292 |
| |) | |
| For: SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER |) | |
| TREATMENT METHOD, |) | |
| SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER |) | |
| INSPECTION METHOD, |) | |
| SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE |) | |
| DEVELOPMENT METHOD AND |) | |
| SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER |) | |
| TREATMENT APPARATUS |) | |

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in Section 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final action, Quayle action, or a Notice of Allowance. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement includes a certification as specified by Section 1.97(e).

Each document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a Notification of Reason for Rejection ("Notification") mailed August 25, 2006, from the

Japanese Patent Office in a counterpart Japanese application, and this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the mailing date of that communication.

Copies of the listed foreign documents are attached. In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the non-English documents, an English language version of the Notification setting forth the relevance of the documents is enclosed. A copy of the Notification is also enclosed for the Examiner's convenience. Applicants do not necessarily endorse the conclusions set forth in the Notification.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.


Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please
charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

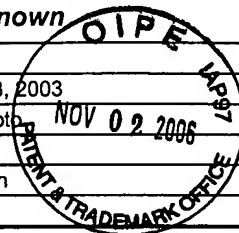
Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: November 2, 2006

By: 
Selah C. Park
Reg. No. 57,127

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|---|-------------------|----|---|--|--|---------------------------|------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------------|------|----------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO <div style="text-align: center;">INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</div> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">(Use as many sheets as necessary)</div> | | | | <div style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold;">Complete if Known</div> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><i>Application Number</i></td> <td>10/706,090</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Filing Date</i></td> <td>November 13, 2003</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>First Named Inventor</i></td> <td>Junji Sugamoto</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Art Unit</i></td> <td>2891</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Examiner Name</i></td> <td>Bradley Smith</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Attorney Docket Number</i></td> <td>02887.0259</td> </tr> </table> | | <i>Application Number</i> | 10/706,090 | <i>Filing Date</i> | November 13, 2003 | <i>First Named Inventor</i> | Junji Sugamoto | <i>Art Unit</i> | 2891 | <i>Examiner Name</i> | Bradley Smith | <i>Attorney Docket Number</i> | 02887.0259 |
| <i>Application Number</i> | 10/706,090 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| <i>First Named Inventor</i> | Junji Sugamoto | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Art Unit</i> | 2891 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Examiner Name</i> | Bradley Smith | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Attorney Docket Number</i> | 02887.0259 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |



| U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|--|---|---|---|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
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Note: Submission of copies of U.S. Patents and published U.S. Patent Applications is not required.

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | Translation ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | | JP 08-097263 | 12-04-1996 | | | Abstract |
| | | JP 2003-318242 | 07-11-2003 | | | Abstract |
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| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ |
| | | Copy of Japanese Office Action titled "Notification of Reason for Rejection" mailed by the Japanese Patent Office on August 25, 2006, in counterpart Japanese Application | Yes |
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|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.